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PAGE 01 STATE 247955

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SUBJECT: ISRAELI DELEGATION TO GENEVA CONFERENCE

GENEVA FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

1. MOST STRIKING ASPECT OF COMPOSITION OF OFFICIAL ISRAELI DELEGATION TO GENEVA IS ITS EMPHASIS ON PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMATIC COMPETENCE. RECORDS INDICATE THEY ALL LIKELY TO BE GOOD EBAN LOYALISTS. MRS. MEIR HAS OFTEN BEEN RELUCTANT IN PAST TO TRUST MFA IN IMPORTANT DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS WITHOUT INCLUSION OF HER OWN MAN IN MFA TEAM. WE SEE NO CLEARLY MEIR MAN IN THIS GROUP. OF COURSE, TEAM IN GENEVA MAY CHANGE SIGNIFICANTLY WHEN NEGOTIATIONS MOVE FROM CEREMONIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS TO SUBSTANCE. SHORT BIO SKETCH ON EACH OF DELEGATES FOLLOWS.

2. ABBA EBAN: MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. A VETERAN DIPLOMAT AND DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR, ABBA EBAN, 58, BECAME MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN JANUARY 1966. HE HAS GENERALLY BEEN A FORCE FOR SOMEWHAT GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN ISRAEL'S RIGID FOREIGN POLICY. EBAN BELIEVES THAT PEACE

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 247955

WILL REQUIRE COMPROMISE AND HAS CAUTIONED ISRAELIS AGAINST BECOMING ATTACHED TO OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. DESPITE HIS INTERNATIONAL STATURE, HE HAS LITTLE POLITICAL FOLLOWING IN ISRAEL. EBAN'S COLD AND DIDACTIC MANNER IS PROBABLY

RESULT OF SHYNESS. HE AND HIS WIFE, SUZANNE, HAVE A SON AND A DAUGHTER. EBAN SPEAKS ENGLISH, HEBREW, ARABIC, PERSIAN, FRENCH, GERMAN AND SPANISH.

3. EPHRAIM EVRON: DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. EPHRAIM EVRON, 53, WAS NAMED DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FOREIGN MINISTRY IN FEBRUARY 1973. FOR PREVIOUS YEAR HE HAD SERVED AS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL RESPONSIBLE FOR NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION OF FOREIGN MINISTRY. EVRON HAS HAD A VARIED PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CAREER, INCLUDING FIVE YEARS WITH HISTADRUT (1956-61) AND SERVICE AS MINISTER AT EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON (1965-68), AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN (1968) AND AMBASSADOR TO CANADA (1969-71). EVRON USES UNDERSTATEMENTS AND A LOW KEY APPROACH IN DISCUSSIONS. IN FEBRUARY 1972 HE EXPRESSED SKEPTICISM CONCERNING A POSSIBLE ISRAEL-EGYPT INTERIM AGREEMENT ON SUEZ CANAL. EVRON SPEAKS ENGLISH. HE IS MARRIED AND HAS CHILDREN.

4. SHMUEL DIVON: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. SHMUEL DIVON, 55, HAS BEEN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR MIDDLE EASTERN AND RESEARCH AFFAIRS SINCE MID-1973. HE HAD PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS POLITICAL COUNSELOR IN CHARGE OF INFORMATION, PRESS, CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC RELATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS IN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SINCE 1971. HE WAS AMBASSADOR TO BRAZIL FROM 1966 TO 1968 AND AMBASSADOR TO ETHIOPIA FROM 1962 TO 1966. A SPECIALIST IN MIDDLE EASTERN AFFAIRS AND A PROTEGE OF MOSHE SHARETT, LATE FOREIGN MINISTER, DIVON HAS FREQUENTLY TAKEN PART IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH ARABS. IN 1950 HE SPENT SEVERAL WEEKS IN IRAN ATTEMPTING TO GET IRANIAN GOVERNMENT TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL. DIVON PROMOTED A NUMBER OF PRIVATE MEETINGS BETWEEN ARABS AND ISRAELIS IN PARIS DURING 1951-52 UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION THERE. DIVON WAS DIRECTOR OF MIDDLE EAST DEPARTMENT OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR SEVERAL YEARS PRIOR TO SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 247955

HIS AMBASSADORIAL APPOINTMENTS. ACTIVE, ENERGETIC AND CRISPLY CORDIAL, DIVON SPEAKS WARMLY OF HIS FRIENDSHIPS WITH AMERICANS. IN 1964 A US EMBASSY OFFICIAL IN ADDIS ABABA SAID DIVON HAD BEEN EXTREMELY HELPFUL TO U.S. INTERESTS. DIVON SPEAKS FLUENT ARABIC AND ENGLISH, AS WELL AS RUSSIAN, GERMAN AND FRENCH.

5. MORDECHAI KIDRON: CHIEF, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND UN AFFAIRS MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. MORDECHAI KIDRON (ORIGINALLY ROSENBERG), 58, ASSUMED HIS DUTIES AS CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND UNITED NATIONS AFFAIRS IN FALL OF 1971. HE HAD PREVIOUSLY SERVED SINCE 1966 AS AMBASSADOR TO GENEVA AND PERMANENT

REPRESENTATIVE TO EUROPEAN OFFICE OF UNITED NATIONS. KIDRON JOINED FOREIGN MINISTRY IN 1949 AND HAS HELD POSITIONS IN FAR EAST, SOUTH AMERICA AND EUROPE. AS DIRECTOR OF ARMISTICE AFFAIRS (1963-66), KIDRON IMPRESSED AMERICAN OFFICIALS AS BEING UNIMAGINATIVE, HARDLINE, BORED WITH HIS JOB AND BARELY TOLERANT OF U.S. INTEREST IN ARMISTICE AFFAIRS. KIDRON IS INTELLIGENT, CANDID, PERSISTENT, OFFICIALLY UNDIPLOMATIC, BUT SOCIALLY ENGAGING AND AN AMUSING CONVERSATIONALIST. KIDRON HAS DESCRIBED JORDAN'S HUSSEIN AS A BRAVE, COURAGEOUS KING AND A FRIENDLY ENEMY.

6. MOSHE SASSON: AMBASSADOR TO ITALY. MOSHE SASSON, 48, WAS NAMED AMBASSADOR TO ITALY IN JUNE 1973. AN ARAB SPECIALIST, SASSON HAD BEEN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL IN CHARGE OF MIDDLE EAST AND EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND STUDIES AND RESEARCH DIVISIONS OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SINCE 1970. SASSON HAS FOLLOWED A DIPLOMATIC CAREER SINCE 1949, HOLDING POSTS IN PARIS, ATHENS, GENEVA AND ANKARA. THROUGHOUT THE 1950'S SASSON WAS ASSOCIATED WITH LATE REUVEN SHILOAH, ONE OF LATE PRIME MINISTER DAVID BEN-GURION'S CLOSEST ADVISERS AND REPUTED HEAD OF INTELLIGENCE. IN 1966 SASSON BECAME DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF ARMISTICE AFFAIRS. AFTER 1967 ARAB-ISRAELI WAR HE WAS NAMED PRIME MINISTER'S ADVISER ON OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. HE HAS BEEN IN FREQUENT CONTACT WITH ARAB LEADERS ON WEST BANK. IN 1970 SASSON SAID THAT HE FELT ISRAEL SHOULD BE
SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 247955

GOVERNED BY "MAXIMUM SECURITY WITH MINIMUM TERRITORY." KNOWLEDGEABLE, ARTICULATE AND SELF-POSSESSED, SASSON CAN BE AGGRESSIVE IN HIS PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT. SASSON IS MARRIED AND HAS TWO CHILDREN. IN ADDITION TO FLUENT ARABIC AND ENGLISH, HE SPEAKS FRENCH AND TURKISH.

7. MEIR ROSENNE: LEGAL ADVISER MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. AN ABLE YOUNG DIPLOMAT, MEIR ROSENNE, 42, IS LEGAL ADVISER AT FOREIGN MINISTRY. IN THIS CAPACITY HE WENT TO OSLO IN AUGUST 1973 TO HANDLE DIFFICULTIES ARISING FROM ARREST OF TWO ISRAELIS ACCUSED OF INVOLVEMENT IN MURDER OF A YOUNG MOROCCAN. ROSENNE JOINED FOREIGN MINISTRY IN 1957 AFTER EARNING A PH.D. AT SORBONNE IN PARIS. FROM 1961 TO 1967 HE WAS CONSUL GENERAL IN NEW YORK. ROSENNE'S DIPLOMATIC CAREER HAS BEEN PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH HUMAN RIGHTS AND HE HAS BEEN A DELEGATE TO UN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND TO SUB-COMMITTEE ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES. IN 1969 ROSENNE WAS NAMED DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AT ISRAEL ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION. HE IS MARRIED AND HAS CHILDREN.

8. EYTAN BENTSUR: POLITICAL SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER. EYTAN BENTSUR, 35, WAS APPOINTED POLITICAL SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER ABBA EBAN IN JUNE 1971. HE FULFILLS FUNCTIONS OF A STAFF ASSISTANT AND PERSONAL MANAGER FOR EBAN. HE HAD PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN MINISTER'S

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